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REMARKS  
*Wm. L. P. Co. Comp.*  
Manitoba & the North West

— WITH —  
PRACTICAL HINTS  
— TO —  
INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

BY A FOUR YEARS' RESIDENT

*Minneapolis, Minn.*

"TIMES" STEAM BOOK AND JOB PRINTING HOUSE

1884

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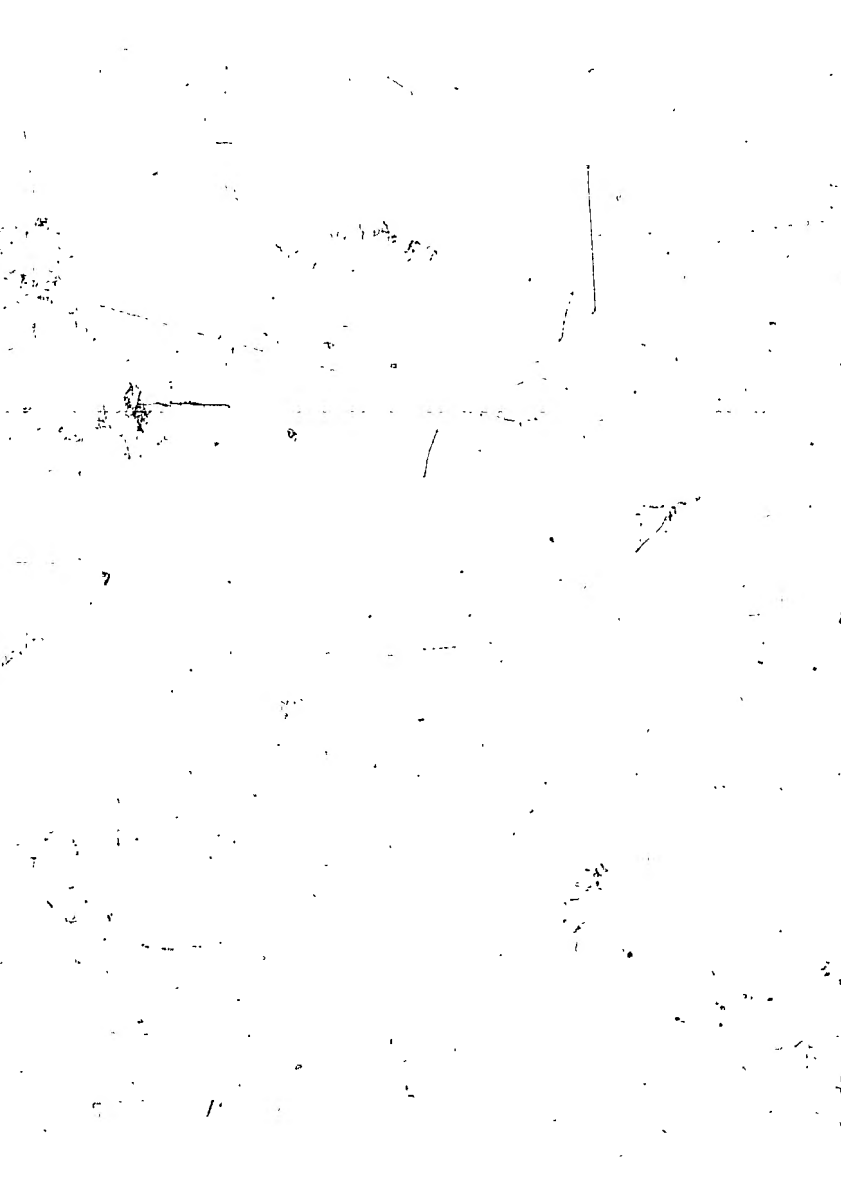
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Winnipeg, Man.:

"TIMES" STEAM BOOK AND JOB PRINTING HOUSE.

1884.





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—AND—

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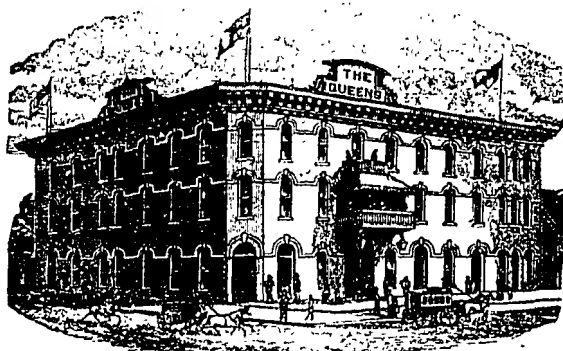
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# REMARKS ON MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST,

—WITH—

## PRACTICAL HINTS TO INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

It might fairly be said that pamphleteering Manitoba has been pretty nearly used up, but to intending settlers there is much to learn and much to unlearn. The numberless brochures which have appeared have painted the Prairie Province and the North-Western Canadas in such glowing terms as to raise the suspicions of the wary, and mislead those of more trusting natures. No doubt much truth has been told regarding the country, and equally doubtless such highly colored descriptions as to border on falsehood.

Paradoxical as it may appear, I do not accuse the writers of untruthful descriptions—flitting through the country at the most favorable time of the year, and under luxurious circumstances, a mind that could remain unimpressed by the vast and varied surroundings, and refuse to admit the probability of a great future in store for the “Land of the Setting Sun,” must be of a very sceptical cast; but the impressions of the holiday seekers who thus travel through the country must be taken with reserve. All is bright and pleasant to his eye, but it requires the pioneer of some time

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resident, to be capable of giving such a description as to be of practical benefit to those seeking to form a home away from the over populated centres of the Old World.

One among the mistakes which have been made in the endeavor to populate this country, and one of great magnitude, is the small capital with which it has been asserted a settler can start himself comfortably. I do not apply my remarks to young men accustomed to manual labor for their daily bread, and who, during several months of the year, are enabled to earn sufficient to keep them for the residue independent of agriculture, but to those leaving a comfortable, though possibly an humble home, in Europe, to settle on the prairies of Canada, accompanied by their wives and little ones, to such I would say pause and do not let yourselves be dazzled by the offer of a free gift of 160 acres of land.

True, the prolific soil of Manitoba, if not of the largest portion of the North-west will compare favorably with the most fertile lands in the world, and when properly cultivated will yield almost fabulous crops, but at least two years must elapse before one can look to his farm as a means of support. It is contended by some that a settler his first year can raise a crop sufficient for his requirements, my own experience and observation of others point to the contrary. A small crop may, under favorable conditions, reward the trial, but it is unreliable, and therefore should not be taken into account, and the time expended in raising it would be far more profitably employed in preparing as much land as

H. SHOREY & CO.,

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CLOTHIERS

—AND—

**MANTLE MANUFACTURERS**

—O:—

**MONTREAL AND WINNIPEG.**

possible for cropping in the second year of the settlers residence. Though prolific as the soil is, farming in Manitoba to be remunerative, requires, as in all other countries, to be properly carried out. The more thoroughly the land is cultivated—~~minus manuring~~—the more satisfactory the result, and until the Autumn of his second years' residence, the agriculturist need look for little if any return for his labor and expenditure of money which, from the time he leaves his former home, is steadily going on.

I do not enter into the inconveniences, the lack of luxuries, possibly the absolute hardship, which the settler and his family have very probably at first to encounter as I conclude that when determining to migrate to the Canadian Prairies, all this has been taken into consideration, and with the last sight of the shores of the Old World, the comforts of long established civilization are bid adieu to, and the determination to rough and make the best of it has been made. The wants of the settler will, of course, to a certain extent, be regulated by the social position occupied by him in his native country. What is indispensable to some would to others be luxury, but many wants are common to all. First, a dwelling has to be erected, and this is made either of logs or what is called framework—the logs sawed into planks. The number of ~~saw~~ mills erected through the country make it far easier to build the latter kind than it was even a year ago. They are nearly as cheap as log houses and are in every way preferable. A four roomed house 24x18 feet can be built for between \$500 and \$800, according to the

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timber used, but the \$500 house would be of very inferior material, so the first necessary outlay is between £100 and £200.

Two stoves are necessary, a cooking and box stove, both costing about £10 (\$50.) If the settler is wise he will bring out his bedding with him, the warmer and softer the better, a few chairs and other articles absolutely necessary can be purchased in the country at very reasonable prices. Once comfortably housed the land best adapted for cultivation has to be fixed upon, and from 20 to 30 acres can be broken up, and backset in the fall, when after harrowing in the following spring, it is ready for seeding. To accomplish this the settler must have a yoke of oxen which, with harness, can be purchased for \$200 to \$280 (£40 to £56); a breaking plough, the cost of which is about \$25, and a harrow \$20; so that the minimum expenditure for house and commencing farming outfit, with a very moderate amount of furniture, would be just \$1,000. I am presuming that everything is to be done on the most economical scale; where such is not the case two yoke of oxen or a team of horses may be purchased, the latter at from \$350 to \$500. But until a comfortable stable is put up and a supply of hay and oats laid in, it is unwise to purchase horses, for in Manitoba they require considerable care, but with a little crushed barley, and the prairie grass, after the end of May, oxen will get through a good share of work, and do not require to be housed before November, by which time the settler, who enters on his farm in spring should have a byre fixed up.

12

# BELLEVUE HOTEL

*No. 10 Owen Street,*

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Offers the Best Accommodation. Home Com-  
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CHOICEST WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS,

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G. W. EARL, - - - PROP.

With a little trouble a fair crop of potatoes may be grown on the sod turned up; for this about half an acre should be ploughed to the depth of 5 inches, the remainder of the land should be only skimmed as near two inches as possible, the thinner the sod the quicker it rots, and when turning back in the fall, a covering of two inches is given, that is the ploughing is made to the depth of four inches.

The settler is now launched on his farming, but he has had to buy provisions for his family, and, further, will have to put his hand in his pocket for everything until his crop is harvested and threshed, which, supposing he got on his land in March, will not be until the following October or November twelvemonth, the only return from his land to this date being potatoes and garden produce. It would, particularly with a family, be hard to get on without milk; a fair cow can be purchased for from fifty to sixty dollars; and a prudent man would not be without pigs; young pigs just weaned can be had from four to five dollars per pair.

All things considered, a family man intending to live by agriculture cannot settle himself on a free grant of land with the prospect of a moderate degree of comfort, who cannot command from fifteen hundred (1,500) to two thousand (2,000) dollars on taking up his homestead. I am writing in, and speaking of, the Province of Manitoba, but my remarks apply to the whole agricultural districts of the North-West, but I would urge those who have the means to do so to purchase what are called improved farms, that is, farms on which the Government regulations have been complied

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with, and the settler has received his patent, care being taken to consult the registry office of the district, that no encumbrance is on the land. There are many of these farms to be sold, varying in price from £500 for 320 acres, according to locality. The settler thus avoids being trammelled by government regulations, which compel him to live for three years on his homestead before being eligible for his patent. He has a house to go into, stabling for his horses or oxen, and land ready for immediate cropping, probably from 20 to 50 acres, which practically puts him two years in advance of a settler under the Homestead Act, on a virgin farm. Farming in Manitoba is subject to the same visissitudes to be found all over the world. In favorable seasons the husbandman is bountifully repaid for his labor, but he is at the mercy of the elements, and occasional years will find frost damaging his grain, a hail storm cutting it down, both no doubt of rare occurrence, but they do occur, and intending settlers must not suppose they are unknown here, and should give them a place in their calculations.

The farmer may look forward to raising per acre from 25 to 45 bushels of wheat, 40 to 90 bushels of oats, 40 to 50 bushels of barley, 300 bushels of potatoes, and a large yield of all root crops, which almost invariably do well, and this may be done for years without manuring. The land has to be properly cultivated, and all intended for seeding in spring should be harrowed for that operation as soon as the snow disappears and the frost is sufficiently out of the ground to

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**AT ALL POINTS IN MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST.**

**ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.**

enable the harrow to cover the seed grain. The land will usually be ready in the middle of April. The crops then sown will, in ordinary seasons, be in stack the first week in September. This year, 1883, in other districts, as well as in this neighborhood, the snow remained on the ground unusually long, there was a great absence of spring rains, and later on of ripening weather. The rains in the spring coming late, resulting in a tremendous growth of straw, and every crop promised an almost unprecedented yield though a late harvest, but unfortunately a severe frost, which was general all over the American Continent, occurred on the 7th of September, seriously damaging much of the grain, which in ordinary years would at this time have been in stack. I had some oats seven feet high with straw more like reeds. This was badly injured. I expected to thresh out 50 bushels of wheat and 90 of oats, but the crop only yielded 22 of wheat and 45 of oats per acre.

This is the first time during four years' residence I have seen summer frost sufficiently severe to hurt growing crops, but this season proved very disastrous to some farmers who were depending on their crops to meet their engagements, particularly to agricultural implement makers. To farm in this country with any prospect of success, a man must have every labor saving implement, but unless he has the money to pay for them it were far better to work for daily wages than to incur liabilities for agricultural machinery, for the payment of which he is dependent upon the coming crop.

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Chicago, Ill.

It may be abundant and pull him through, but failure is also to be considered. Thus, if he has to pass notes for these implements it means difficulty, and in not a few instances, ruin to the person who has to meet any number of them. And though it is conceded that for farming in this country labor saving machinery of all kinds is necessary for the proper cultivation of any considerable number of acres, there is no doubt that until a farmer is in a position to pay for his implements when he receives them and not depend on the doctrine of chances he will be a wiser and happier man to do without them. It will be up hill work and necessarily slow, but the reward will follow. I have frequently heard the remark, "Only for the note I have to meet for that machine," with probably a strong expletive before the word, "I would be all right." Crops may be bad, seasons unpropitious, but the agricultural implement maker must be paid.

To get fall ploughing done the crop must be got off as soon as possible, and for this the agriculturist will require a reaper and binder. Manual cutting, except on very small farms, is now a thing of the past. As it is common for farmers who own reapers to cut for their neighbors at reasonable rates after their own work is over, I do not put one of these expensive machines, which cost three hundred dollars, in the farmers outfit, though if unable to hire one it is an indispensable.

The man to whom this country offers the greatest inducement to settle in as an agriculturist, is one who understands

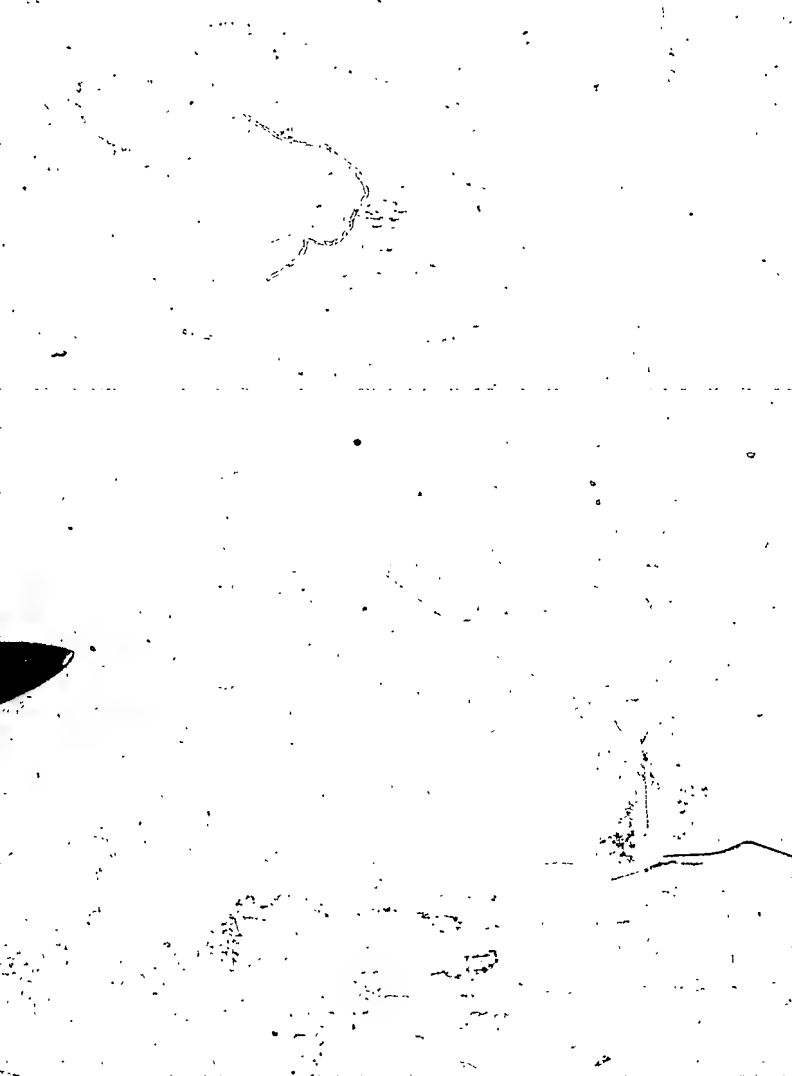




3- practical farming, and above all, can land on his Manitoba farm with ~~£~~300 or £1,000. With this sum and ordinary industry, and steadiness, I know no colony of Great Britain and I speak from personal knowledge of several that can hold out the same certainty of acquiring an independence by farming. I feel sure there are many English, Scotch and Irish farmers who, did they know the inducements that Manitoba and the North-west hold out to men of their calling, if they did not transport themselves and their families here, would assuredly send their sons with a sufficient capital to insure success.

It is this class that the country is best suited for, and that the country requires to do it justice. The material in its crude virgin condition is here and only wants labor and moderate capital to garner its treasures. Manitoba, particularly Southern Manitoba, presents at the present time a most favorable opportunity for the small capitalist to settle in. Three lines of railway intersect the Province with an early prospect of other branches being opened, and many pioneers who have borne the trials and discomforts inseparable to the first settler, who have built homesteads and cultivated goodly portions of the soil with that spirit of adventure which distinguishes our race are willing to sell out at moderate prices to follow still further the setting Sun, in search of fresh pastures.

Two great corporations, the Canada Pacific Railway Co. and the Hudson Bay Co., own numerous farms throughout the country which are offered to the public on very favora-

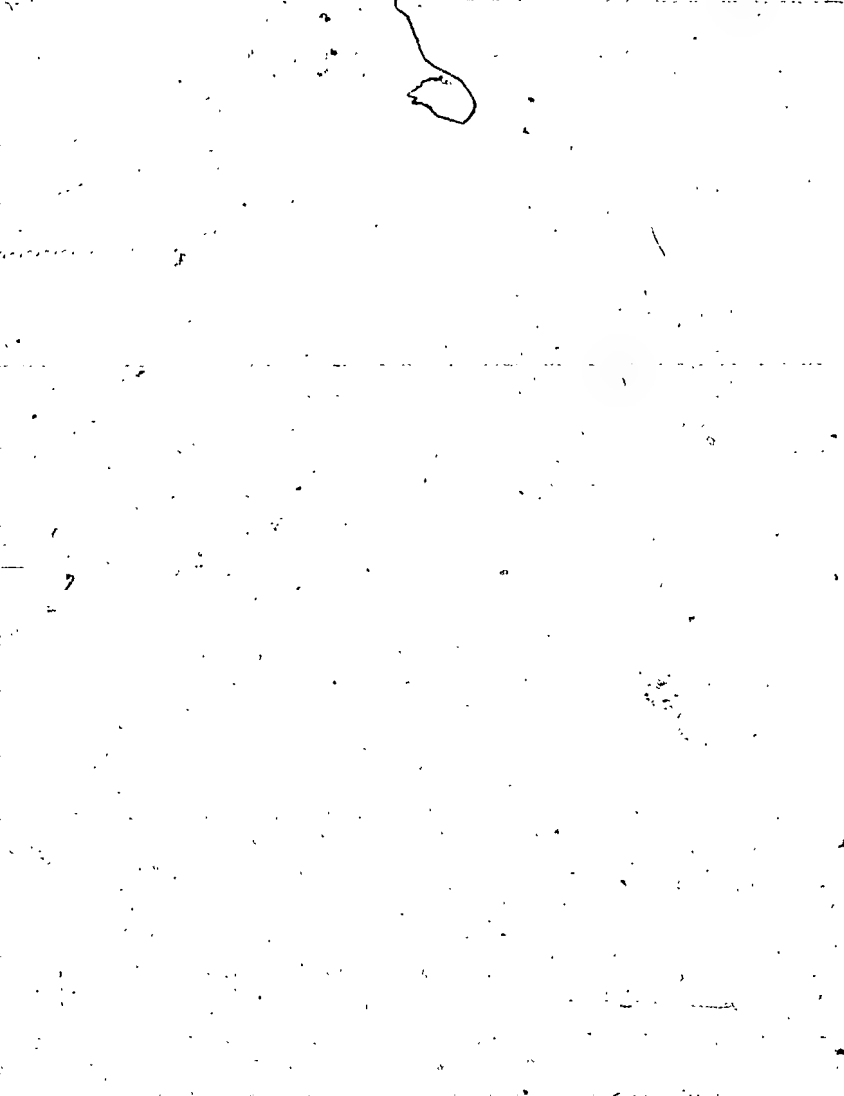




ble terms, notably by the Canada Pacific who, for that gigantic enterprise which they are so successfully carrying through to the admiration of the world, have received a large grant of land from the Dominion of Canada which it is to their interest to populate as speedily as possible.

A railway through an unpopulated country or the ownership of wild, unoccupied lands would be unproductive property, so that the public have the best possible assurance that of self interest of this company doing all that lies in their power to advance the true interests of the country.

Much has been said about the monopoly granted to this syndicate, but were it not for the Canada Pacific Railway Manitoba and the North-West would occupy a very different position to-day from what it does. No government would or could do for the North-West what the Canada Pacific Railway have and are doing, and as it is only by the development and success of the country that the shareholders in this vast undertaking can expect to recoup themselves for their enormous outlay, it is evident the country's welfare must be their first consideration. Manitoba and the North-West are making rapid progress who can doubt that now looks upon the smiling homesteads, picturesque villages, undulating fields of corn, with in the summer the rich prairie bright with offerings to Flora, or in the autumn glorious with hues born of decay, and call to mind that less than a quarter of a century ago it was a "Lone Land" its solitudes only broken by the lowing of the buffalo and the whoop of



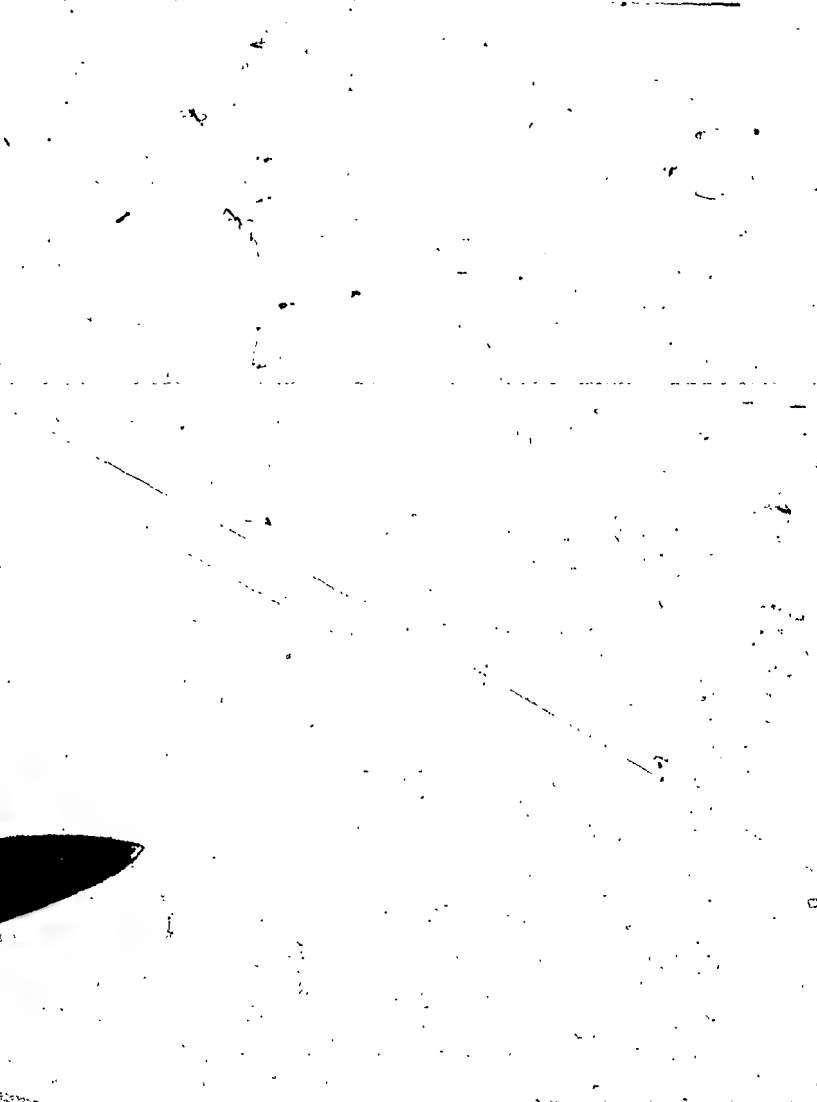
the Red Skin, that a few short years hence it is destined to stand pre-eminent among the colonies of Great Britain.

That it has all the capabilities is undoubted, but to arrive at it, capital, energy and industry must play their part, and the directors and officials of this great railway are foremost in the good work. Not only are they spending vast sums in construction, but their efficient and enterprising land commissioner, has commenced to cultivate farms along the immediate line of railway in the far west to prove the capability of the soil, so that those who run through the country may practically read.

Seeing is believing, and what the black mould can produce will be evident to even the casual tourist lolling on the seat of his luxurious "Pullman."

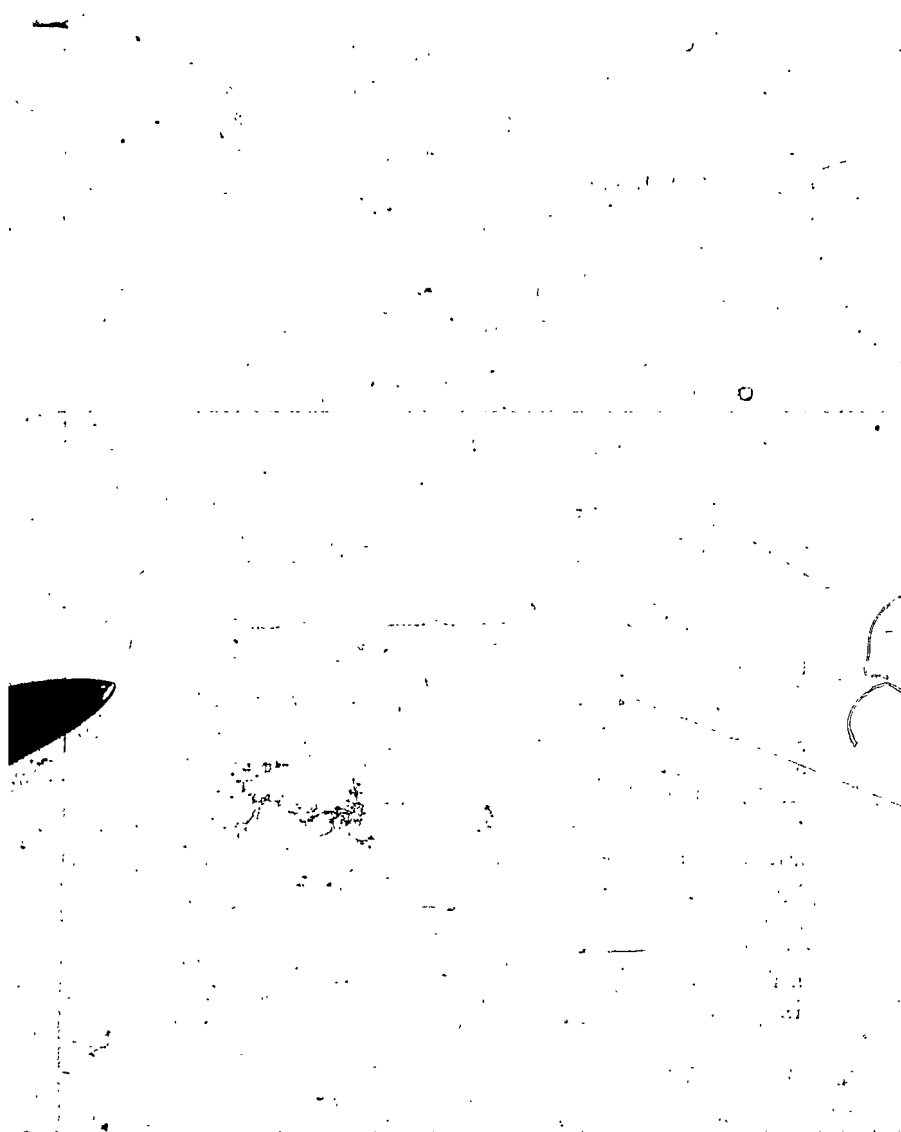
The Manitoba and North Western Railway of Canada have 512,000 acres of fine farming land in Manitoba and the North-West now on sale. Land warrants are granted by this company through the agents of the Allan Royal Mail Line of Steamers. As the railway runs through some of the most fertile belts of the North-West, intending settlers in this portion of the Dominion of Canada will do well to direct their attention to these lands now offered for settlement on very liberal terms.

It must not be taken by any of the foregoing observations that I advocate none other than persons with £1000 and over should settle in Manitoba, and the North-Western Canadas, far from it, there is room for many years to come for every man able and willing to work and earn a good



days wage for an honest day's labor. Those physically incapable or afraid to soil their hands with the black mould of the country, seek other fields, but to the laborers of Great Britain, I say, come and bring your families. There is remunerative employment awaiting you, and if content to work under others for a comparative short time, you will be in a position to own, enter and work a farm yourself, with an almost assurance of success. As the country progresses many of the present farms will be sub-divided and for sale. With a cottage and five acres of land and his weekly or daily hire, an agricultural laborer and his family can live comfortably and put by a considerable yearly sum without experiencing the cares and anxieties which his employer has to encounter. At present the most marketable commodity which the farm produces is wheat. Oats and barley at present prices are not a remunerative crop, but the man able to keep stock and feed his grain is sure of good returns.

It is the old adage applicable to farming, "do not put all your eggs in one basket." Grain crops, roots, cattle, swine and poultry should all have their place, each helping to swell the profit account, excess in one compensating for deficiency in the other. As facilities for transport increase, artisans settle in the country and trades and industries multiply, the position of the farmer will considerably brighten, a market being provided. At present the great majority are farmers, though there are abundant good openings for blacksmiths, carpenters, shoemakers, cart and wagon builders, thatchers, basket and hurdle makers, and various other



handicrafts, but the idea seems to be that all Old World people coming to this country must necessarily farm on their own account.

Jack is as good as master here, and whether farming on ones own hook, or helping someone else to farm, "A man's a man for a' that." The price of wheat at the present time is from 60 to 70 cents. per bushel of 60 lbs., putting the price at 60 cents and the yield a fair average, 25 bushels to the acre, would bring fifteen dollars, the outlay would be for the first crop per acre, breaking, back setting and harrowing, six dollars and one half; two bushels of seed one dollar twenty cents; cutting and binding, one dollar fifty cents; drawing and stacking, twenty-five cents; threshing out at five cents a bushel, one dollar twenty-five cents. The following year there will be a reduction on the ploughing of stuble land, so that at present prices the farmer can realizes on his wheat a clear gain of about five dollars per acre.

Buying is at present restricted to a few, and the centres for purchasing are limited, but it is unreasonable to expect the facilities of an old settled country in one which is still in its early infancy. It is developing fast, and further, there is every prospect that the wheat grown in this country will command a much higher price, as from its peculiar strength and hardness it is in much request among millers.

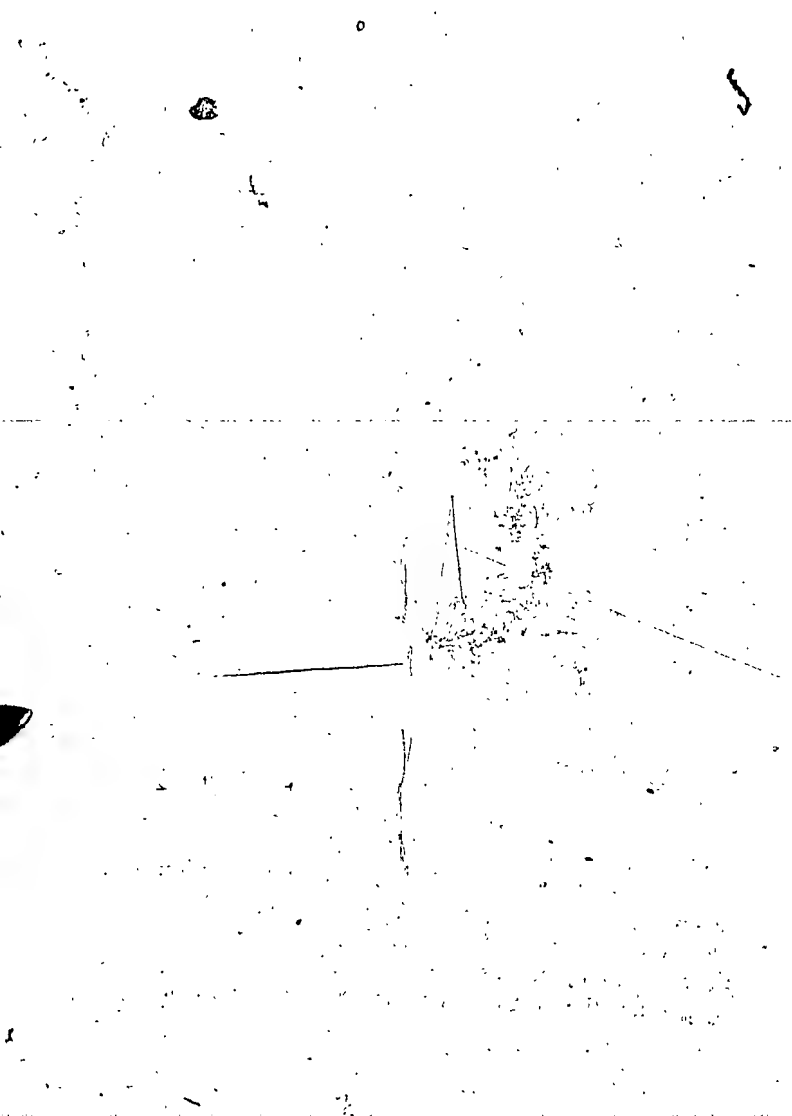
The soil grows magnificent barley and it is a certain crop, maturing early, yet there is little demand for it, and it is





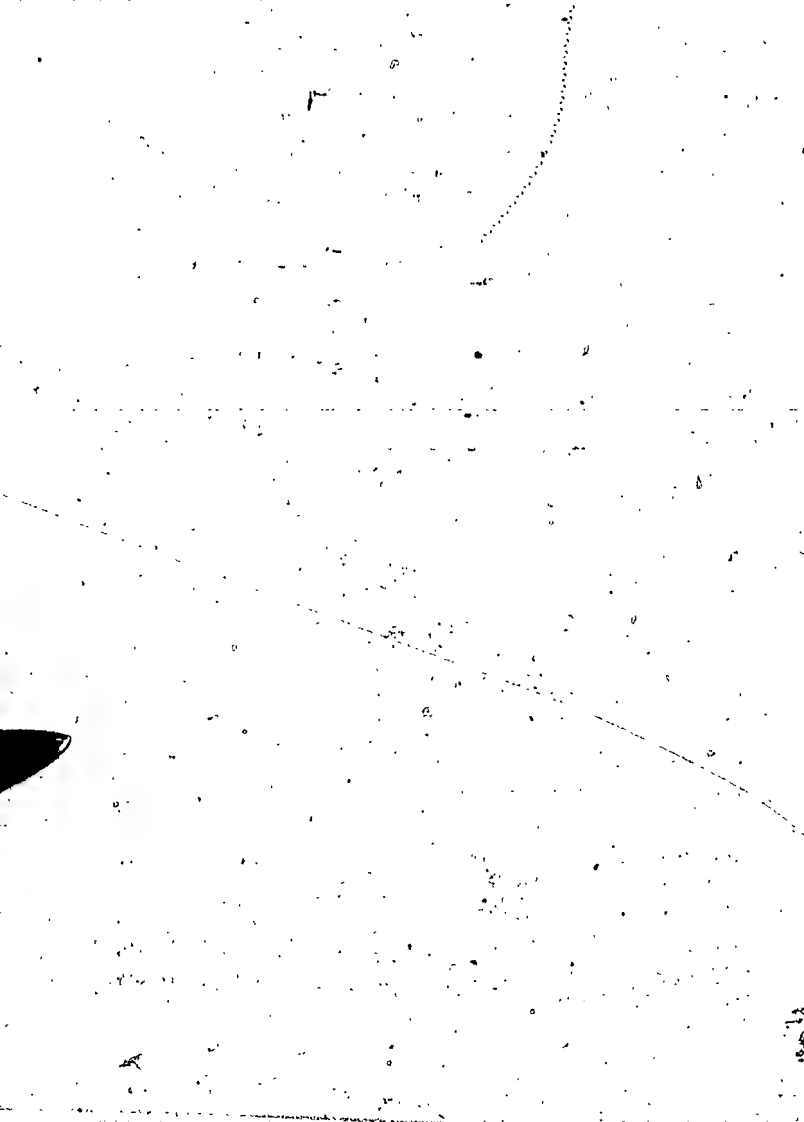
chiefly cultivated for pig feed. If some of the large distillers in Europe could see the samples of barley grown all over the country a demand for it would soon spring up. With ordinary care it can be grown and harvested in the the greatest perfection, both as to quality and color, producing from 40 to 50 bushels per acre. Flax grows in great luxuriance on land first broken, and I believe is beneficial in hastening the disintegration and decomposition of the sod. The Belfast and other merchants would do well to turn their attention to this country for an unfailing supply. It is cultivated merely for the seed, which sells at a dollar to a dollar and a half per bushel. The fibre is burned. Various manufactories have good openings presenting in the country, the raw materials costing much less than in Europe. As yet the export trade of the Province, except in wheat, is *nil*, though there is much to attract capital and stimulate enterprise.

In bacon and pork alone a large business might be done, pork now selling at six cents per lb., with but little demand ~~over at this price~~. The pigs being all fattened on crushed barley and wheat, the meat is of the finest quality. At the time of writing this many thousand pounds could be purchased in Southern Manitoba at this price, while it is fetching in England from sixteen to eighteen cents. The natural grasses of the prairie are of a very fattening nature. The flies in summer annoy animals a good deal, keeping down their condition, but in the fall they put on flesh rapidly, and by the time the frost sets in are in splendid condition.



Sheep generally do well, though in some districts there is a plant called spear grass which is injurious to them, but as a rule they thrive all over the country. Lambing should be in the middle of May, but I had a small flock which I purchased in the autumn. They commenced lambing in January, with the thermometer thirty below zero. They were all housed at night, the ewes fed on crushed barley. I only lost two lambs—the rest doing remarkably well. Three or four young men with small capital clubbing together and purchasing cattle or sheep, herding them in the open season, and disposing of them to butchers at the end of the fall, would find it very profitable. Their outfit would be inexpensive, a pony for each with a good sized tent being all they would require. For years to come this may be practised in Manitoba without interference from the settlers. The stock owners travelling through a settled country would be subject to little or no hardships, and such a life, apart from its pecuniary aspect, would have attractions for many.

The mineral wealth of Manitoba and the North-West Territory would seem to be varied and inexhaustable. Veins of gold, iron ore, and coal have been found in several districts. The assay of one gold mine producing five hundred dollars to the ton. Several coal seams are being worked, among them the Saskatchewan mines which are now in full operation under the direction of the Saskatchewan Coal Mining Company. The lands of this company are reported by a mining engineer to contain eleven million tons of the mineral. The Rocky Mountains where the Canada Pacific



Railway Company have extended their line to, have been proved to be very auriferous, one range especially so, which has received the name of the Gold Range. Large salt deposits have also been discovered but have only been utilized by the natives ~~to~~. Lime-stone, sand-stone and granite are to be had in several places.

The mineral resources of the country languish in development for want of capital.

With a surface of untold wealth extending over hundreds of millions of acres the agriculturist need not delve into the bowels of the earth in search of hidden treasures.

The farmers of the United Kingdom are in general fond of a bit of sport, and they can here enjoy it without offending the landlords.

The streams and lakes abound in certain kinds of fish, but not in great variety.

Wild duck and geese are here in countless thousands during the season. When these are not to be had the prairie grouse and wood partridge afford excellent sport and a grateful addition to the farmers larder, while for more aspiring sportsmen the moose, elk, and deer, roam the woods in large herds, and only require perseverance, a good rifle and steady aim to become the trophy of the hunter. Bears are also numerous, and, unless when brought to bay, harmless.

There is a large field here for an acclimatization society; the streams and lakes could be stocked with trout, perch, tench, barbel and other fresh water fish, and non-migratory

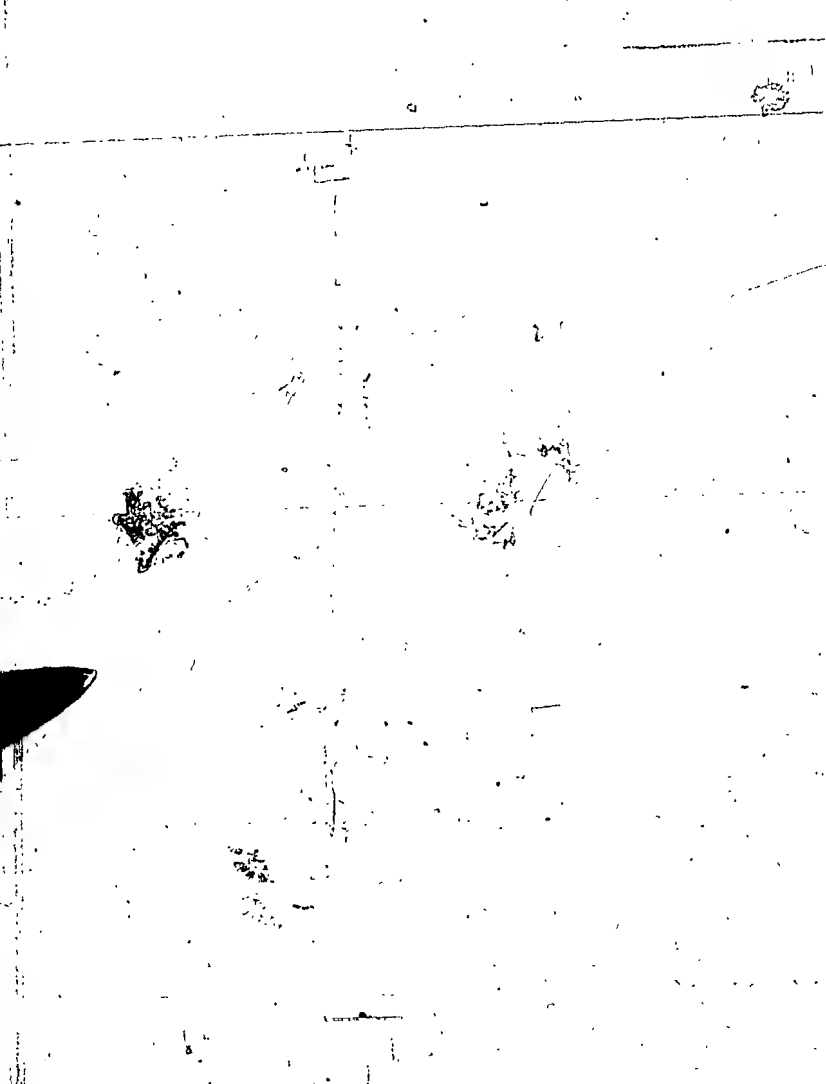


birds largely added to. At present these are limited to the prairie grouse and wood partridge which are fairly abundant, and the strict preservation laws which have been lately enacted will no doubt tend to their increase.

English hares and rabbits would, I believe, soon become climatized, and it is improbable that the latter would multiply to such an extent, as in Australia, to become a nuisance. Wolves, lynx, skunk, mink and other animals would soon find them a toothsome morsel, and moderate their increase.

As farmers get a little more settled they will find time and means to try these experiments, as with the increased and increasing facilities of getting to the North-West the influx of visitors seeking health and recreation will yearly multiply, for in no part of the world can a more glorious climate be found than that of Manitoba in the autumnal months, and those who have done every cranny of the Continent to satiety will gladly seek other fields within easy reach. The passed away heritage of the Red Skin will long afford many attractions to the tourist and sportsman, and it is to the interest of all residents to make these attractions as great as possible for the influx and circulation of capital is much required.

The resident in Manitoba has nature's garden to gather from, and a very bountifully stocked one it is. Strawberries in a good year are so abundant that a large pail may be filled in a few minutes; the berry is small but the flavor perfect. Raspberries, black and red currants, quite as good as those cultivated in Europe, and plums, are very plentiful,



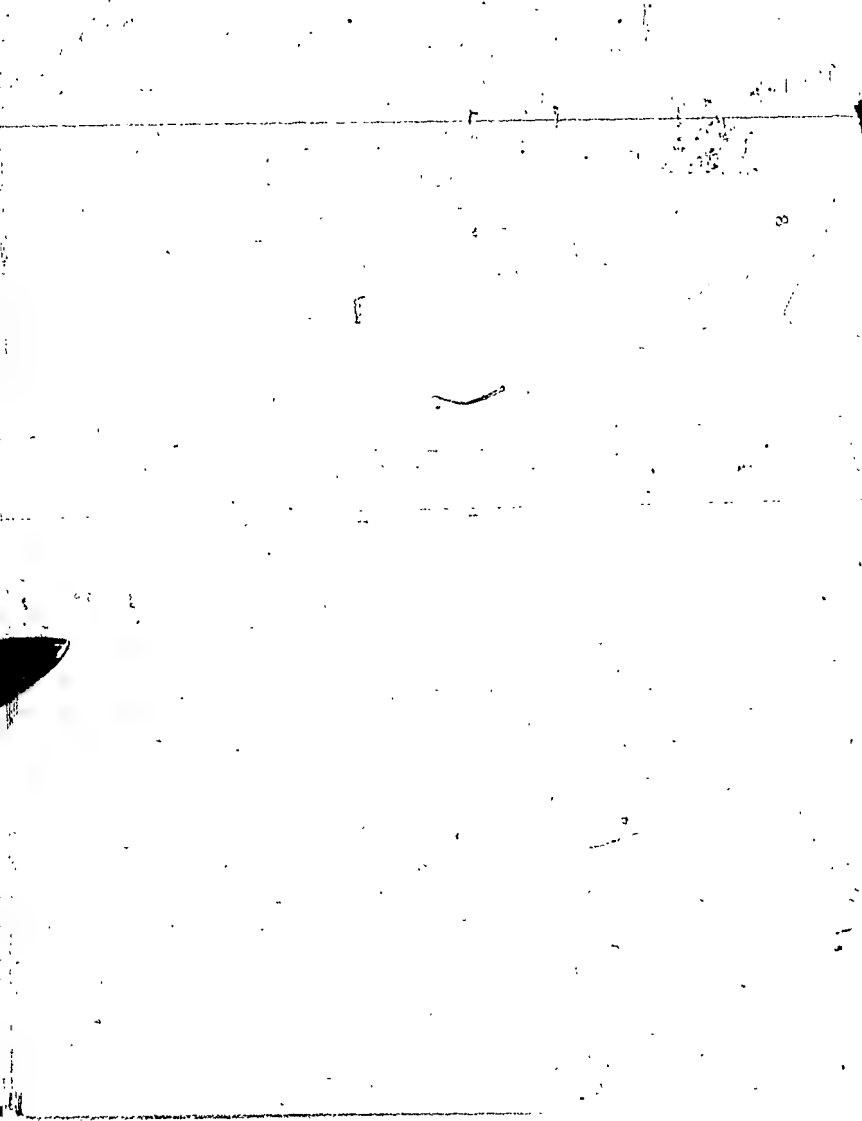


while the cranberry is in greatest profusion. The prairie supplies the kitchen with all the herbs necessary for culinary purposes, and is rich in medicinal plants. The bluffs of timber are loaded with hops of the very finest quality, cartloads of them may be gathered without difficulty. If growing so luxuriant in their wild state, what would be their yield under cultivation? Gooseberry, Siberian crab and Russian mulberry trees, particularly the latter, are found to do well if carefully attended to after transplanting. The wild gooseberry tree is indigenous to the soil, but though I have frequently noticed the flower I have not seen it mature. The country is too young to find enclosed gardens but after a time with good walls protecting from the bleak winds, many European fruit bearing trees can be successfully grown. The grape vine grows luxuriantly in many places.

The settler in this country, unless he locates on the extreme borders, is pretty certain to find educational advantages at hand, and this of no mean order. The Board of Education is a very energetic body, and are constant in endeavors to supply all necessary requirements. Each school is supplemented by a government grant, the teachers requiring a certificate of competency, awarded after passing examination. These are divided into grades, so that each school district can secure efficient instruction according to the requirements of the children. The higher the education the greater the salary of the teacher, but as this is spread over many the cost to each is very trifling. Those who have followed the process of settling virgin districts in the

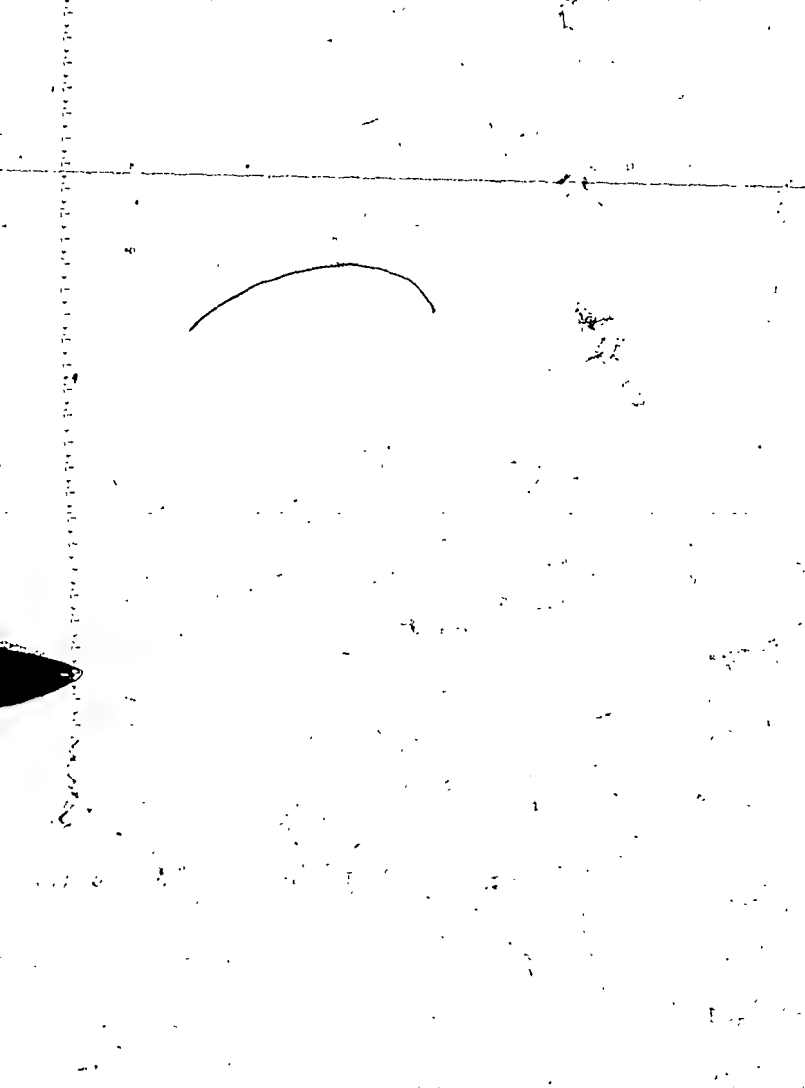
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United States, and are aware of the lawlessness which for a considerable time reigned supreme in the new settlements, would be astonished at the law abiding peaceful character of the pioneers in this country. There is a singular absence of all crime. True, the population is as yet limited and scattered amounting at the present time to about one hundred and fifty thousand souls, but it is in these early periods of settlement that rowdyism prevails. The resident in Manitoba is as secure as he would be in an English county, and the law here is as swift to punish all offenders as in the old centres of civilization. The few tribes of Indians who roam through Manitoba are a harmless, and, one might add, a dirty, idle and degraded race. One looks in vain for a sample of the Fennimore Cooper redskin, and is fain to acknowledge that the savage race has sadly deteriorated or that the popular novelist drew largely on his imagination.

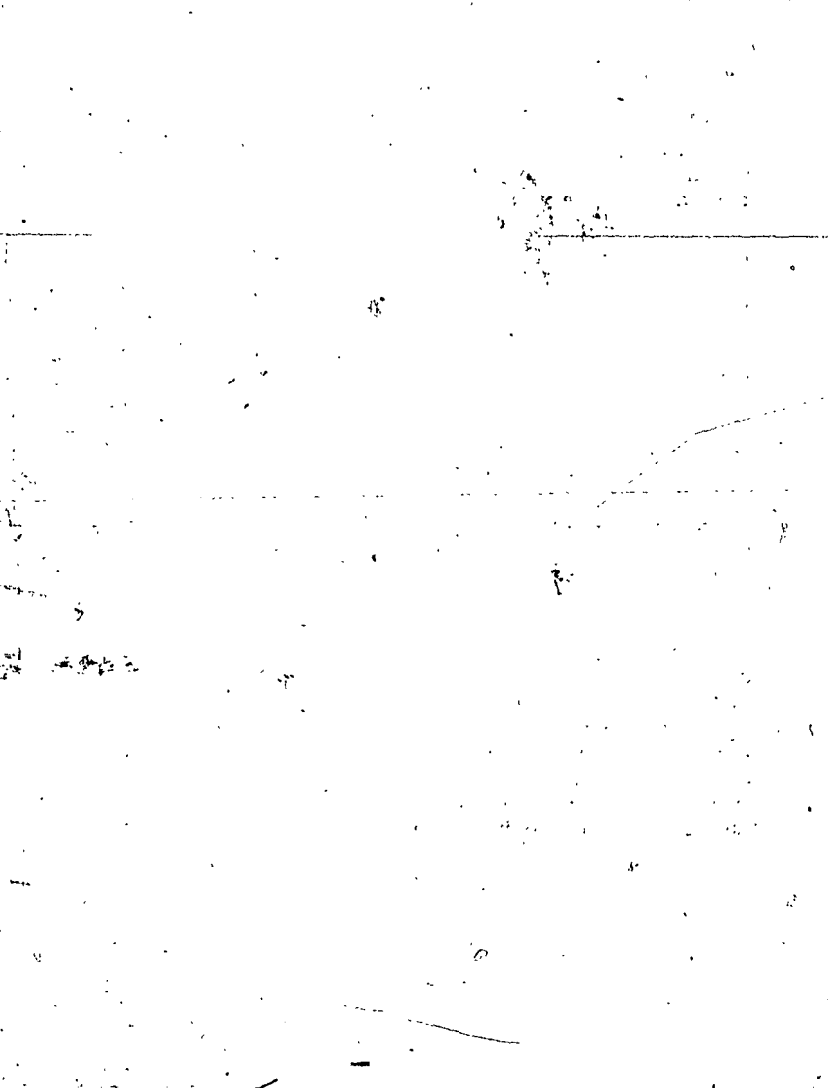
Considerable tracts of land in various parts of the country have been reserved by the Government of Canada for the different bands of Indians, and each family receives a capitation grant. Attempts have and are being made to induce them to work for a living, but with only partial success. All labor, except hunting, is, in the eyes of an Indian, derogatory. The squaws are simply beasts of burden, and while the noble savage bestrides his half starved pony decked out in feathers and gewgaws with his gun in hand, the unfortunate women are trudging along on foot laden with tents and camp equipage. Whisky has still a fatal fascination for them and under its influence they become maniacs. Severe



penalties of fine and imprisonment are incurred by any person giving an Indian liquor. It is not unlikely, that in less than a century the American Indian will be but a tradition.

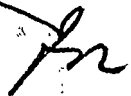
The climate of the North-West has been put forward as a great draw-back to Europeans. That the winters are long and the temperature often low is no doubt the case. Winter may be said to begin the latter part of October, and spring to commence the latter end of April. It will not exceed these limits except in very unusual seasons. The transition is rapid. In the winter months though the thermometer may register thirty below zero, there is such almost perfect aerial stillness, with the sun's warm rays shining through an atmosphere of peculiar dryness and rarity, that with moderate exercise the cold is not noticeable, and were it not for the thermometer it would be difficult to believe in the low temperature. I have found the raw foggy days of winter in England much less endurable. With a higher temperature and wind the cold is keenly felt, this is called a blizzard, the wind taking up the fine particles of frozen snow, so as to render it difficult to see even a yard before you, neither man nor beast should be out in this weather. As they sometimes come on suddenly the nearest shelter should be made for. In the early days of settlement many lives were lost from exposure during these storms. If driving with either horses or oxen it is the wisest plan to wrap oneself as warm as possible and trust to the sagacity of the animals to carry you to an habitation. In these cases the instinct of the

*of the occurrence*



beast is apt to be of greater value than the higher attributes of man. The other six months of the year are as a rule altogether enjoyable. The hot days of summer are tempered by light breezes and the nights are always cool. The venomous little mosquito qualifies the enjoyment of the summer evenings, but as the land is being broken up, and the swamps drained his unwelcome buzz is less general and in many places has ceased. In the lower provinces of the Dominion the mosquitos were even worse than in Manitoba, but I believe, have in many places, quite disappeared. In my first year's residence here they were a plague, my house being situated on the banks of a river, but each year they have become less, and were only troublesome on two or three evenings of last summer. The climate is assuredly no drawback to the country, on the contrary, holds out great inducements to the emigrant. One cannot conceive an atmosphere laden with more health giving properties than the breeze wafted over the prairies of the North-West.

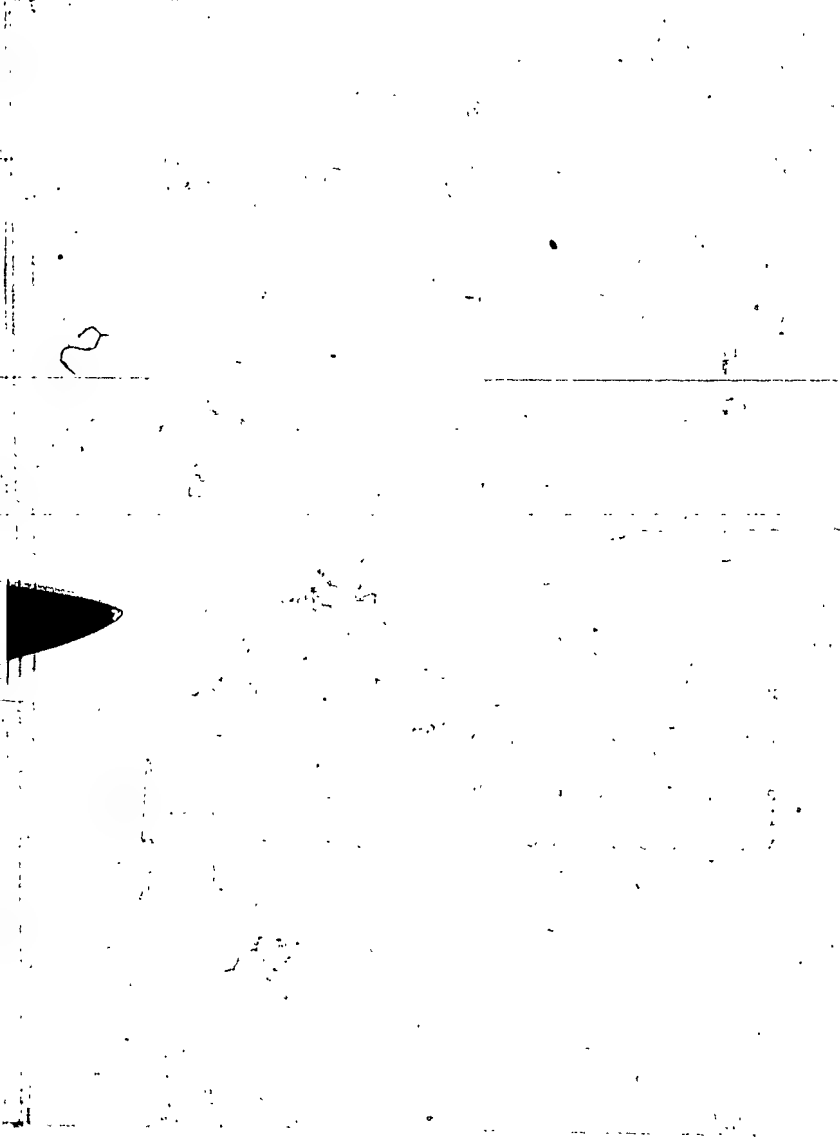
The country is free from those storms which desolate the United States settlements. There is abundance of timber for fuel for many years to come supplemented by exhaustless seams of coal of excellent quality, so that an attempt to scare intending settlers on any of these points must signally fail. Manitoba is not a garden of Eden, far from it, for the historic apple is unknown. But if a man with a family and some capital, ~~though insufficient to put them in a way of doing for themselves in Europe,~~ who is willing to forego





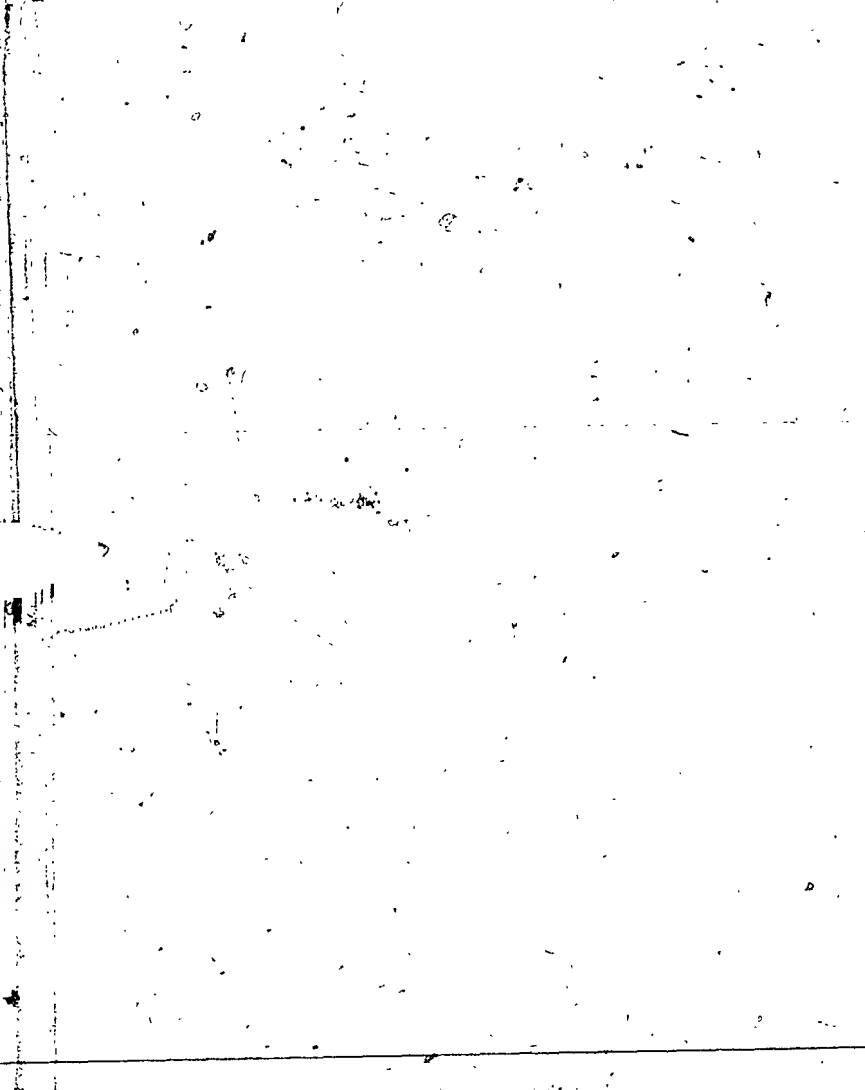


most of the luxuries of life, be content for a time with the necessaries, and work for them, his reward is sure and his posterity will sit, if not under the shade of their own fig tree, they will under the branches of those indigenous to the soil, of which they will be prosperous owners. Though life is not particularly easy to the menkind it is much harder on women. Ladies, and there are many out here, not in the hackneyed sense of the term, who tenderly nurtured from their cradle, accustomed to every luxury up to the time of coming out, on whom devolve the whole labors of the house, washing, baking, cooking and those manifold duties which require a staff of servants in Europe, cheerfully undertaken and accomplished, but still, nevertheless, telling its tale in the attenuated figure and premature ageing which are so often to be met with. This is the country to solve the problem of lady helps, though performing so called menial offices the mistress would be their fellow servant, and as the comforts of a home, particularly a prairie home, are largely dependent on woman's ministration, the lady help would soon find herself a cherished member of each little household, a life far preferable to that which many governesses and others have to endure to eke out a livelihood in England and elsewhere. As there is a dearth of agricultural laborers so is there an equal dearth of female help though wages are fair, ranging from twenty to fifty pounds a year. I could, without difficulty, place a dozen ladies in less than a week in desirable families in my immediate vicinity, and the same could probably be said by many



others throughout the Province. The class that emigrate as servants generally either remain in Winnipeg or go to the larger towns where they get employment in the various hotels and boarding houses, and as there are numerous bachelors on the lookout, frequently marry "for better or for worse." The present supply is far short of the demand. It would be a good thing if those interested in such matters in England would turn their attention to it. A home might be established in Winnipeg as a temporary residence on arrival in the country, and many ladies residing there would I feel sure, gladly co-operate in the scheme. Churches are scarce outside of Winnipeg. Episcopalian clergymen are few and far between in the country districts, which, however, are well supplied by Presbyterian, Methodist and dissenting ministers who hold services at various points, and wherever there is a French colony there you are sure to find a Priest and chapel. Want of funds is the excuse for the great lack of ministration to Episcopalian souls, and the majority of the settlers are not yet in a position to find the necessary money. Surely some of those societies who take such interest in the black man's soul and send out mission after mission might remember their white Protestant brethren in Manitoba who from year's end to year's end hear not the Gospel preached to them, not that they are careless, for it is to many a great and grievous deprivation. This is but a repetition of the ecclesiastical policy pursued in our early settlement of America, except in the State of Virginia, where one hundred acres was set apart in each borough as a glebe

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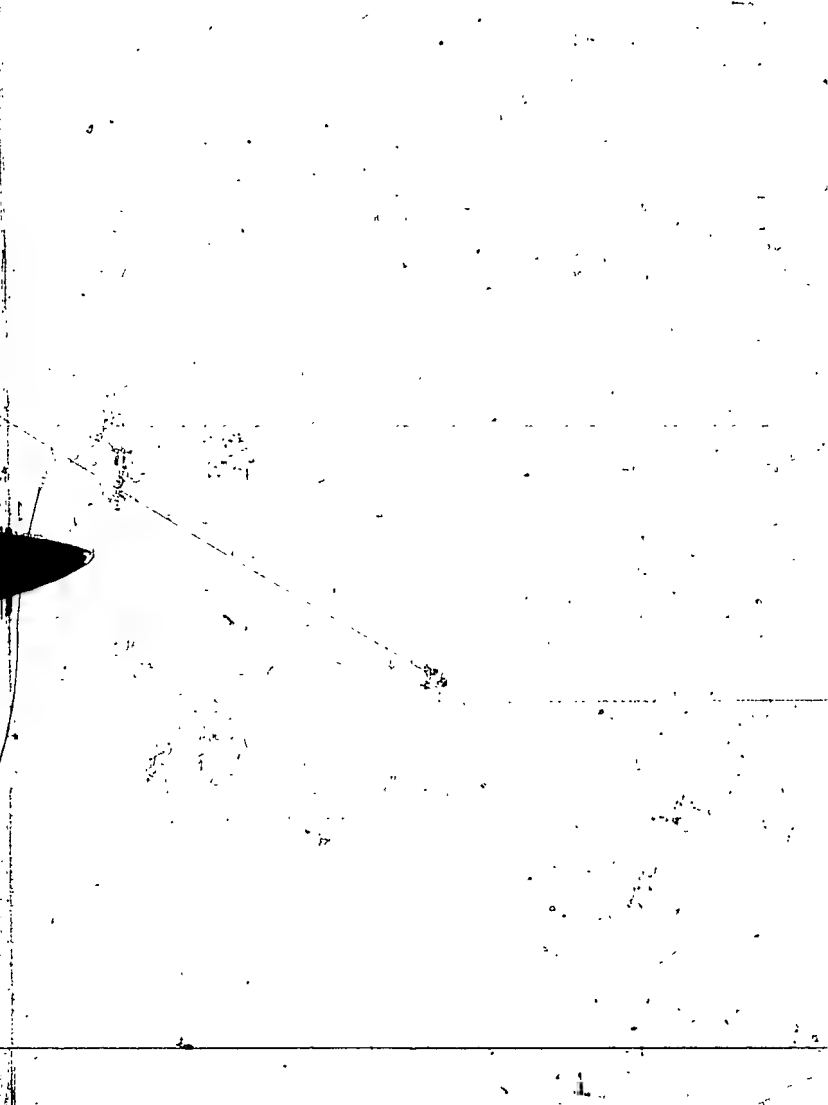
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and an income for the incumbent of two hundred pounds a year. In 1775 this colony had one hundred and sixty-four churches and chapels, and ninety-one clergymen. In other parts, the only ministers of the Gospel, with a few exceptions, were non-conformists. Walker, in his history of England says :

"It was but in a few favored spots that any provision had been made for the offering up their prayers in the same language, of supplication and thanksgiving as they might hope that their countrymen and kinsmen were uttering in the churches of their native land."

The Metropolitan of Ruperts Land, in as much as he is without funds (desirous as he undoubtedly is), is unable to supply the want, and it will be some time before the colonists are in a position to build churches, parsonages, and provide a stipend for ministers. The effect will be that the non-conformist congregations will increase and those who are members of the Established Church will gradually loose their attachment.

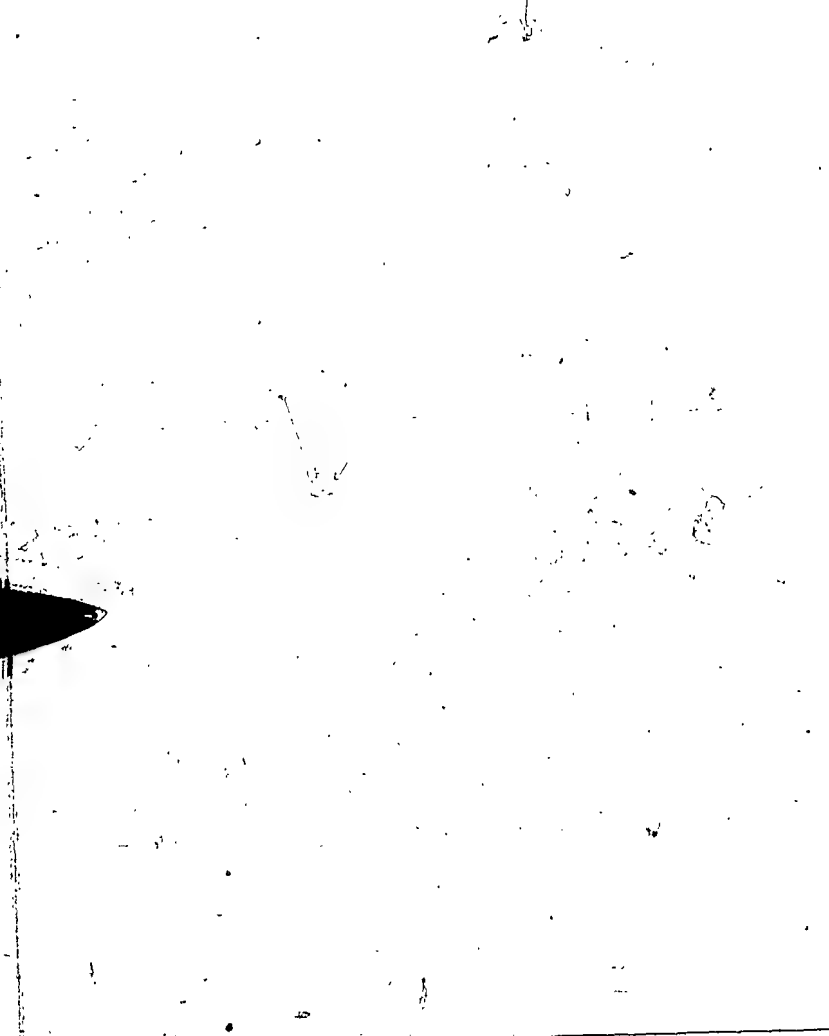
A portion of the vast sums of money which are annually devoted in England to good and charitable objects would be well employed in forming a fund for the payment of salaries to clergymen of the Church of England who would settle throughout the country and afford to all desiring it the privilege of listening to our glorious liturgy.

The intending settler in the North-West should bring out with him a good supply of warm underclothing, and though he may have one or two go-to-meeting suits, his chief out-



fit should be strong corduroy. Monkey jacket, waistcoat, breeches and gaiters of this material he will find of more use than any others. Clothing is expensive here, and, it may be prejudice, but I think it is also very inferior to that to be had in England. I would also recommend a good supply of the strongest boots, well topped, here the uppers are worn out when the soles are good, reversing the general order of these things. I do not presume to advise the ladies, but warm underclothing is an essential in the winter, and as the labor of the wash tub is not generally regarded as a treat, serviceable stuffs not easily soiled will be found the best material for dresses.

A family should bring out their bedding and those little household gods that make a home cheerful. If sold before leaving they fetch but a trifle and can never be replaced. Those who have good feather beds should stick to them, and when the winter winds are howling around their prairie homes at night and they are enjoying their softness and warmth, thankfulness at having brought them is sure to be felt. Everything in household use in the Old World is also in use here, but cumbersome and heavy articles such as furniture, china, glass, etc., would cost too much to transport, and can be purchased in Winnipeg and other places in the Province, at reasonable rates. Intending settlers should start from Europe so as to arrive in Manitoba at latest by the middle of April and not earlier. They will thus have time to either purchase land, or take it up and commence work in time for that year's crop. But it is very desirable that they





should make up their minds prior to arriving in the country where they purpose locating, and go straight to the nearest town in that vicinity. Hotel bills soon mount up, and money thus spent may be far more profitably employed in establishing a home. The Canadian Pacific Directors and the Dominion Government, as well as some of the Land Corporations have issued maps which will guide all intending settlers as to the locality, and every enquiry is fully answered either by Dominion Agents in London, Winnipeg, or at the Department of the Interior, in Ottawa, where lands are open to homestead, and the situation of all such lands, will be furnished by the local Government land agent of the district. Any male of the age of 18 or the head of a family male or female, on paying a sum of 10 dollars, can get a homestead entry of 80 acres, and further entry for another fee of 10 dollars to a second 80 acres, called a pre-emption. Having cultivated fifteen acres of his homestead, put up a dwelling house and out offices no matter how humble, and resided on it three years consecutively, the settler is entitled to his patent, which thus gives him possession in fee of his homestead, and in payment of a further sum which has varied from one dollar to two, and a half dollars per acre he receives a fee-simple deed for his pre-emption, thus acquiring 160 acres of the best land in the world for a mere nominal sum. The land laws of Canada are more liberal than those of any other colony or state. In drawing these remarks on Manitoba and the North-West to a conclusion, I will summarize the cost of settling with a family on 320

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acres of land. The calculation is not intended to be a hard and fast one. Thousands have settled on a title of it and are doing well, but there can be little doubt they have had to endure much privation and hardship. A family emigrating to the North-West, and having a capital to purchase what is given in the following page, may look forward to enjoying a very fair degree of solid comfort in their Canadian home. My estimate is for a family. A bachelor's shanty can be run up for fifty dollars, or if he is his own builder, and not particular as to material and architecture, for about five dollars, the price of a window and door.

A four roomed frame house 24 by 18 ft.	\$500.00
Cooking stove, box stove, and piping...	70.00
Furniture.....	50.00
One yoke of oxen and harness.....	230.00
Waggon.....	80.00
Breaking plough.....	26.00
Harrow.....	20.00
Cow.....	60.00
Two pigs.....	5.00
Poultry, 6 head.....	3.00
Sundries.....	20.00

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\$1,064.00

Living expenses for family of six, first year. 300.00

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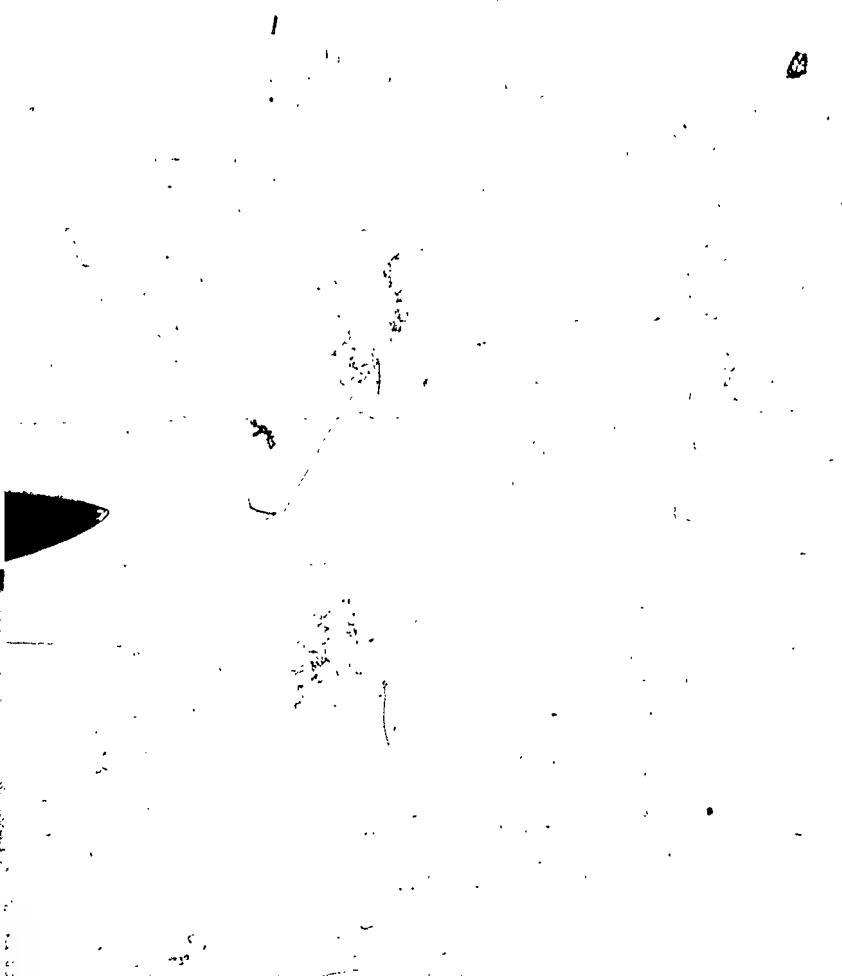
\$1,364.00

“ “ “ second year. 300.00

Seed for 30 acres .....	60.00
Stubble plough .....	26.00

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Second year....\$1,750.00



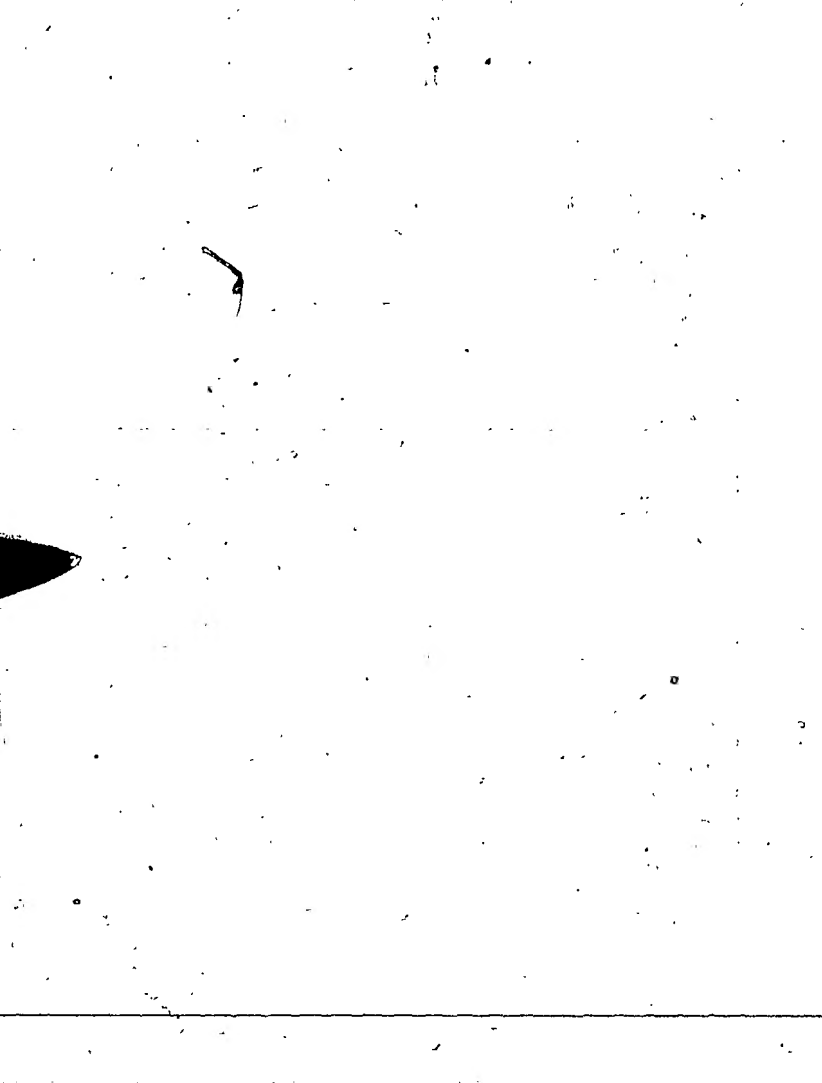
There are unforeseen expenses which may reasonably be put down during the two years at two hundred and fifty dollars, making a round sum of two thousand dollars.

The settler, at the commencement of his third year, may find he has two more head of stock, the produce of his cow, and well off for swine, while the poultry are now a goodly lot, and, if fortunate, sufficient seed grain and one hundred and fifty dollars, the price of surplus grain. His expenses now are considerably lessened. The farm supplies pork, poultry, eggs, flour, milk, butter and potatoes, the only necessary expense being for groceries. Tea of a good quality costs 50 cents, and sugar about 16 cents per lb. But as his farming operations have increased it entails the purchase of other agricultural implements, and for more than 30 acres a pair of horses must be added to the oxen. Thus in his third year, should he be desirous of extending his farming very considerable expense must be incurred. On the other hand, with stock increasing yearly and the farm supplying nearly all that is required for food and having a balance to the good, the settler may wait until his savings accumulate to a sufficient sum to purchase the extra plant he may require, and if he has not the money to pay for them he will be a much wiser man to do so and avoid the burden of debt.

I have only had experience of the Allan Line of steamers on an Atlantic voyage. I dare say the accommodation offered by other steam ship companies is all that can be desired, but it would be impossible to surpass the comforts

*He had*





and attentions paid to passengers by this popular line. The extreme liberality of the table, the thoroughly efficient arrangements and attention of a large and superior class of saloon stewards remind one of the old days of the Peninsula and Oriental service, so that either tourists or settlers cannot fail to be right in taking passage with the Allan Line.

I would strenuously caution their friends to seek other colonies than Manitoba as a home for young men addicted to intemperance. Rye whisky is about a third of the price of ~~the~~ whisky in England, and though the Canadians are by no means an intemperate people, the very contrary, they are good-natured, liberal and always ready to treat the "stranger in their gates." Instead of being cured of the propensity, a weak-minded individual, which an habitual toper must be, is more likely to be confirmed in than cured of the habit of ~~drinking~~. Farther west, beyond the confines of Manitoba, liquor is not procurable except by permits granted by the Lieutenant-Governor, and in no case can it be purchased in that part of the North-West, so that there is a ground where dipsomaniacs may with advantage be located and saved from themselves. There is but little if any opening for clerks, and none for idle impecunious gentlemen unable to work. Their career here must necessarily be brief. For abundant, wholesome food, warm clothing and comfortable shelter are all necessary to get through the winter months, but, as I have before said, the capable and willing workman, handicraftsman and industrious agriculturists, with sufficient means to start themselves in moderate comfort on their





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farms, to these I say do not hesitate to come out and cast in your lot in a country which only requires energy and industry to develop her vast and varied resources. While these notes are going through the press in Winnipeg considerable distress among some English people who came out here no doubt exists, but its extent has been exaggerated and is entirely confined to that class who are either unsuitable to the life as emigrants to the North-West, or those who have come out here too late in the year, have had to remain in Winnipeg and spend the small capital they brought with them. No Englishman or any other nationality coming to Manitoba at the proper time of the year, pushing out into the country districts and either taking up land for themselves or hiring out with the settlers, need ever become objects of charity. If they desire to become farmers on a small scale they can purchase five acre lots from the present settlers and put up a log house. Half an acre of potatoes grown on the sod will produce sufficient food to keep hunger away for the year, and they can earn sufficient during hay time and harvest to lay in many comforts. But the idler, the grumbler and the incapable have a harder time before them out here than the same class had at the first opening of the gold fields of Australia when the gentleman was cooking the pot and the mining navvy was his master.

Person 7